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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

JAN 29 1959

Dear Mr. President:

I am forwarding herewith the report of progress in the Military Satellite Program during the quarter ending December 31, 1958. This program is under the management direction of the Advanced Research Projects Agency, Department of Defense.

Work on basic satellite subsystems and the recoverable biomedical capsule, previously reported as part of the SENTRY Satellite System, has been redesignated DISCOVERER. Development of the photographic and electronic reconnaissance subsystems will continue under the SENTRY project. The Infrared Very Early Warning Satellite System, formerly Subsystem "G" Weapons System 117L, has been redesignated MIDAS.

Launch of DISCOVERER I on January 21, 1959 was terminated during countdown due to accidental firing of the Ullage rockets. A new launch date has not yet been established.

DISCOVERER II launch is now scheduled for February 25, 1959. Preparations for launch of DISCOVERER III in March 1959 with a recoverable biomedical payload are substantially on schedule. Recovery tests of dummy biomedical capsules dropped from aircraft have been successfully completed.

With great respect, I am

Faithfully yours,

Signed
NEIL McELROY



1 Incl
Report, as stated

The President

The White House

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Authority MR 79-218 #17

by bc NLE Date 8/11/82

SecDef Cont. No. 5-164

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